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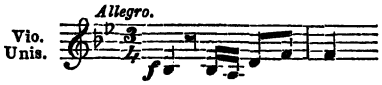
The *Miserere*, which enters in the treble and alto before the cadence of the lower voices, is passionate; indeed, the whole of the movement is impassioned and full of the musician's chords and effects of predilection,—witness the holding D of voices and first violins, bar 21 and onwards. The *Dona* is a most brilliant finale; it abounds in new ideas. A light orchestral theme of three bars—



introduces the principal subject by a quartett of voices. The theme of the soprano, which is afterwards treated in imitation, opens one of the most novel phrases ever used in counterpoint. The result is even beyond Haydn's usual felicity. The entire chorus sparkles with joy and gaiety; while the vocal phrases are full of variety and elegance. It is a "finis coronat" worthy of the composer.

Correspondence.

EASY METHOD OF DETERMINING THE TONIC.

To the Editor of the Musical Times.

Sir,—All tyros in music are for a time rather perplexed by the number of the scales, and the difficulty of ascertaining, and still more of recollecting, their key or foundation note, especially when the number of sharps or flats is large. The following curious property in the order of the scales may, by removing the difficulty, be of great utility to these as well as to the more advanced.

Let us begin with the sharps and flats when they are *even* in number, and observe that the key-notes requiring *sharps ascend* regularly by *tones* from C, and similarly they *descend* from C when regarding flats; thus,—

Flats.	6	4	2	0	2	4	6	Sharps.
Key notes.	G♭.	A♭.	B♭.	C.	D.	E.	F♯.	

In the same way, when the number of flats or sharps is *odd*, the key-notes requiring *sharps ascend* by *tones* beginning at G, and when *flats, descend* similarly, beginning at F; thus,—

Flats.	7	5	3	1	1	3	5	7 Sharps.
Key notes.	C♭.	D♭.	E♭.	F.	G.	A.	B.	C♯.

There is little here to recollect; a clue is thus furnished by which the tonics can be instantly ascertained. For instance, suppose one should need to know the tonic of six flats,—seeing them to be *even*, we *descend* from C by tones, B♭ 2, A♭ 4, G♭ 6, and thus we have it (G♭) at once, without the long process of half-a-dozen fifths or fourths, as is customary. Whether these simple and beautiful facts are partly or wholly known to theorists generally, I cannot say: so of its importance and value I leave you to judge, in publishing or withholding it, as you think proper, in your *Times*.

Yours respectfully,
W. O.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The late hour at which Advertisements reach us, interferes much with their proper classification.

Colored Envelopes *are sent to all Subscribers whose payment in advance is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscriber neglects to renew. We again remind those who are disappointed in getting back numbers, that only the music pages are stereotyped, and of the rest of the paper, only sufficient are printed to supply the current sale.*

We would request those who send us country newspapers, wishing us to read particular paragraphs, to mark the passage, by cutting a slit in the paper near it.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

Met.—*The last chorus in Dr. Elvey's Oratorio, "The Resurrection and Ascension," beginning "Let the sea make a noise," should be ♩= 120, by Maelzel's Metronome. The Tenor B, in the 49th bar is to be played flat; the accidental is unfortunately omitted in the organ accompaniment, although it is inserted in the voice part.*

A Member of the Choir of the late Handel Festival.—*It would be better to address your suggestion to the Crystal Palace Company direct, as our advocacy might appear to be too personally interested.*

Instruction in Music.—*We are in the habit of receiving anonymous letters from students in music requesting instruction upon various matters in aid of their musical progress. We cannot undertake to teach Harmony by correspondence, but for those students who are unable to provide themselves with masters we would recommend "Catel's Treatise on Harmony," "Mozart's Succinct Thorough-Bass School," and other more advanced works, all of which will be found in "Novello's Library for the Diffusion of Musical Knowledge."*

Brief Chronicle of the last Month.

Ballarat.—The Philharmonic Society of Ballarat has made so much progress of late that they have been enabled to perform the *Messiah*. The oratorio was rendered with great effect, and was altogether successful. The solo performers were Mrs. Hancock, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Moss, Mr. Williams, Dr. Kupferberg, and Mr. Hancock, who were most efficient in their respective parts. A selection of glees and madrigals followed the oratorio, when Mr. Oliver, the hon. secretary of the society, sang Handel's "Haste thee, Nymph," in a most agreeable style. Mr. Turner was the conductor, and Messrs. Fleury and Paltzer led the orchestra.

Barnard Castle.—The Sacred Harmonic Society gave a performance of *The Creation* on the 22nd of October, in the National School-room. The principal performers were Miss Helena Walker, and Messrs. Pearsall, Brandon, and Ainsworth. Mr. Roper was the organist, and Mr. Bedsmore the conductor.

Barnby Gate.—Two sermons were preached on Sunday, the 17th ult., upon the opening of the Barnby Gate Wesleyan Chapel. The congregations were unusually large, and a handsome amount was collected. Mr. J. B. Smith, of Haworth, ably presided at the organ.

Bierton, Bucks.—A new organ has been erected in the Church of this village. The instrument is from the manufactory of Mr. R. W. Rouse, of Summertown, Oxford, on whom it reflects much credit. The opening took place during the past month. Organist, Mr. G. Lowe.

Canterbury.—The fifth public performance of the Canterbury Musical Union took place at the Music Hall, on the 27th of September, when the leading professional musicians of the city contributed their quota to the attractions of the evening. The music was well selected and ably performed.—The Catch Club. This celebrated club commenced its eighty-fifth season on the 29th ult., under the presidency of Mr. John Callaway. The musical arrangements are again entrusted to Mr. Longhurst, which is a sufficient guarantee for the excellence of the programmes, and a proof that every thing will be done to secure an efficient performance.

Clifton.—Rossini's *Stabat Mater* was performed here on the 27th of September last. The principal vocalists were Madame Weiss, Miss Lascelles, Signor Giuglini, and Mr. Merrick. The Clifton Vocal Association undertook the choral department, and the band was selected principally from the Royal Italian Opera. The orchestra, consisting of about a hundred performers, was conducted by Mr. Curtis, an amateur residing at Clifton. There were above a thousand persons present in the room.

Crystal Palace.—Mr. Distin's vocal and military concert took place on a grand scale at the Crystal Palace, on the 9th of October. The programme contained the names of no fewer than thirty singers, besides the Orpheus

(Continued on page 339.)

Brief Chronicle—continued from page 334.

Glee Union, and the Messrs. Distin themselves. Among the singers were Madame Rudersdorff, Madame Albertazzi, Miss Dolby, Miss Poole, Miss Messent, Miss Ransford, Messrs. Morgan, Perrin, Charles Braham, and others. In addition to this array of vocal talent there were performances in different parts of the building, by seven or eight bands—the 11th Hussars, the Royal Artillery, the 15th Hussars, the 36th Regiment, the 47th Regiment, the 4th Royal Lancashire Militia, the Royal Lancashire Artillery, and the Crystal Palace Band; and subsequently, by all the bands united. The vocal concert included thirty-one solos and seven duets, besides a concerted piece by the Fugel Horn Union, a trio of sax horns by the brothers Distin, a part-song by the Orpheus Glee Union, and a solo on the pianoforte by Mr. Brinley Richards. Mr. Distin himself played an obligato to a song of Bishop's, "Peace inviting," with great taste. The song itself was sung with effect by Miss Ransford, and it was deservedly encored. The horn is an instrument particularly well adapted to such a building as the Crystal Palace, and an addition of more music for that instrument would have been a great improvement to the concert. The conductors were Messrs. Randegger, Ganz, Beale, and Berger. We may allude to the fact that the programmes sold in the building for 6d. each, were most incorrect; they purported to give the words of the songs, but many songs were omitted and some inserted which were not performed. Neither was the order of the songs, as set down in the programme, adhered to. The complaints on this subject were universal, and many of the purchasers demanded back their money. It is to be hoped that the Crystal Palace Company will see that these details are correctly carried out, particularly when so many as fourteen thousand persons are interested in the matter.

Cullompton.— Mr. Underhill's annnal concert took place at the Sessions House during the past month, and was well attended. The orchestra comprised several efficient performers, led by Mr. Webber, of Taunton, who also performed a solo on the violin, which was much appreciated. A cornet solo by Mr. Crowe was well received. There were several songs by Miss Tozer, Mr. Branscombe, Mr. Underhill, and Mr. Maynard.

Evershot.—On Tuesday, the 12th ult., the choir of this parish gave a concert, which was numerously attended. The music consisted of glees, madrigals, and part-songs, which were given with much correctness, and in an effective style. Mr. R. Linter, of Weymouth, performed several pieces on the pianoforte in a masterly manner.

Frome.—The Sacred Harmonic Society is about to give a full performance of the oratorio of the *Messiah*, about the 18th of this month, for the benefit of the Mechanics' Hall, now in course of erection, which will seat nearly 600 persons. The oratorio will be given in the hall on the day of opening, with Mozart's accompaniments, and will consist in all of about 120 performers. Leader, Mr. Dyer; conductor, Mr. Morgan; harmonium, Mr. Cox. The event is looked forward to with much pleasure, the oratorio having never been given in this neighbourhood (not even in Bath or Bristol) with so great a number of performers.

Gildersome.— On Monday, October 18th, a Grand Sacred Concert was given by the Gildersome Philharmonic Society, consisting of selections from the works of Handel, Haydn, and Mozart. The band and chorus numbered between 40 and 50. The principal vocalists were Miss Pickles, Miss Beaumont, Miss Hartley, and Messrs. R. Glover, Foster, Naylor, and W. Webster. The performance gave great satisfaction to the audience.

Hythe (Kent).—On the 29th of September, Mr. J. Clafton, organist of the Parish Church, gave an evening concert in the Town Hall. The vocalists engaged were Messrs. Plant, Newscome, Eastes, and Farrow, from Canterbury Cathedral, who sung a selection of songs and glees in a very effective style. Two German songs sung by an amateur elicited much applause, and two solos on the pianoforte by Mr. Clafton were well received. The concert was numerously attended.

Launceston, Tasmania.—A Philharmonic Society has for some time past been in existence at this place, which bids fair to rival many similar societies in the mother country. It is to Mr. John Adams, formerly a professor of music at Wimbleton, Surrey, that the society owes its existence, and its present flourishing condition. This gentleman was obliged to leave England about five years ago on account of his health, and after visiting Melbourne and Sydney, he at last settled in his profession at Launceston. When arriving there, he found that choral music was quite unknown and unpractised, and he immediately set about the formation of a society. His first great difficulty seems to have been that of procuring music, at a time when the communication with England was so imperfect. It was necessary under these circumstances that he should compose, and make very many copies of, every exercise or tune that was required. He seems to have written as many as 150 lessons for beginners before he could obtain any printed music from home. His indefatigable exertions however were rewarded with the utmost success, and in a short time he was able to keep together a large body of chorus singers, whose improvement was so rapid that they were soon capable of performing the compositions of the best masters, and a knowledge of good music has been infused into all the polite society of the place. The concerts and soirées are patronized by most of the leading families and rich settlers, the Governor and his lady are frequently present, and they have a room capable of accommodating 500 persons. A concert was at one time got up by Mr. Adams for the "Indian Relief Fund," at which Mr. Farquarson assisted; the *Creation* was performed, and above £120 was realized for the charity. One great difficulty the conductor seems to feel is the impossibility of inducing the members, particularly the ladies, to go through the drudgery of practising exercises. They think they can at once start upon the most difficult music without learning the rudiments, and a more ridiculous mistake could not have occurred to them; this however is a very general complaint, and the more ignorant a person is, the greater difficulty there always is in making him learn; and music is not an art which can be made available without going through a great deal of labour and well directed practice. It is highly gratifying to learn the success of this enterprise, and we may say with confidence that much good must have arisen to the colony by this humanizing and delightful recreation.

Leighton Buzzard.—Mr. J. Young's annual concert took place in the Town Hall, on the 7th ult. The vocalists were Mrs. Clare Hepworth, Mrs. Winn, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Winn. Instrumentalists, Mr. T. Harper and Mr. Blagrove. The proceeds, like most other concerts at Leighton, were not very satisfactory.

Leyton.—On Wednesday, October 6th, a concert of sacred music was given in the National School. The principal performers were Miss Annie Cox, Miss Boden, Miss Julia May, Miss Riseam, Miss Baxter, Mr. Upton, and Mr. A. J. Hubbard. The programme consisted of selections from the *Messiah*, *Judas Maccabæus*, *Creation*, and *Elijah*. Among the pieces worthy of special notice, were "I know that my Redeemer liveth," Miss Cox; "O rest in the Lord," Miss Boden; the duet, "Hail Judea," by Miss Julia May and Miss Riseam; and "In native worth," by Mr. Upton. The choruses were effectively given, and the whole accompanied in an excellent manner by Miss Lousia Bull. Conductor, Mr. A. J. Hubbard.

Liverpool.—The Vocal Union, consisting of about 60 well-trained voices, gave their opening performance at St. George's Hall, on the 29th of September, when *Elijah* was selected. The principal singers included Mr. and Mrs. Weiss, Mrs. G. Holden, Miss Hiles, Miss Sharpe, Mr. Mann, and Messrs. Wilson and Pierce. The chorus, though small for so grand a work in so vast a building, was well-trained and perfect. The *piano* passages were given with much taste and precision, but the louder and

more elaborate music was not so effective. The accompaniments were admirably played upon the organ, by Mr. Best; his performance was greatly admired. The whole was ably conducted by Mr. Armstrong.—THE ninth subscription concert of the Philharmonic Society will take place on the 2nd of this month, when Mendelssohn's *Athalie*, and Beethoven's *Mount of Olives*, will be performed. The solo parts will be taken by Mrs. Clare Hepworth, Miss Stott, Mrs. Winn, Mr. W. Cooper, and Mr. Winn. Conductor, Mr. J. Zeugheer Herrmann.

MR. DAWSON, late organist of St. Mary's Church, Reading, is appointed as musical director to the Durham Diocesan Association for the promotion of Church music.

ORLINGBURY.—On the 29th of September a concert of sacred music was performed in the village school-room; the music being selected from the works of Handel,—the *Messiah*, *Judas Maccabæus*, &c. The audience were highly delighted with the evening's entertainment. The principal performers were Miss Kemball, Mr. Kemball, and Mr. S. Randell, who very ably assisted in the solo singing; Mr. A. Beeby was the leader; Mr. William Randell, conductor; and Mr. Josiah Clarke presided at the harmonium.

PESTALOZZIAN CHORAL SOCIETY.—The ladies and gentlemen of this society gave their quarterly entertainment on the 6th of October, under the able direction of Mr. Henry de Laspeé, Doctor and Counsellor in mental and Physical education, at their rooms, 63, Fleet Street. The programme consisted of selections from Schiller's *Lay of the Bell*, by Romberg; and other works by Balfe, and the first authors, interspersed with recitations from *Julius Cæsar* and *William Tell*. The whole offered the audience a very agreeable evening, and was well received by those present.

SCARBOROUGH.—Mr. Yahr's Concerts.—These concerts have been very popular, and deservedly so. The series terminated on the 15th ult., when the following *artistes* were engaged:—Mrs. Sunderland and Miss Whitham, whose songs, &c., were received with considerable applause, and Mr. D. Lambert, who was greeted with the cordiality awarded to a favorite. The solos on the harp and pianoforte, respectively by Messrs. Murray and Yahr, were all that could be desired. The concert was brought to a conclusion by the National Anthem, the solos of which were well sung by Mrs. Sunderland.

SKIPTON.—A concert was given here on the 6th of October, by Mr. Joseph Tempest (of the Parish Church Choir), previous to his leaving England for America. Upwards of twenty amateurs rendered their services gratuitously on the occasion, and Mr. Watson kindly officiated as pianist and conductor. The room was crowded to the doors, and the performance passed of with great *eclat*.

WARMINSTER.—From 60 to 70 persons attended the third meeting for practice of the Choral Society, held in the National School-room on the 18th ult. The pieces selected were a chorale from Mendelssohn's *Hymn of Praise*, "Let all men praise the Lord;" Farrant's anthem, "Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake;" a quartett of Mozart's; and Tallis's anthem, "All people that on earth do dwell." The performance, as a whole, proved that there was a decided improvement since the first meeting, held a fortnight since. Mr. Dyer conducted as before, and Mr. Feltham presided at the pianoforte.

YORK CHORAL SOCIETY.—The opening concert of this society took place in the Festival Concert-room on the 14th ult. The programme was remarkably good, and consisted, in the first part, of Handel's serenata, *Acis and Galatea*, when the following artists assisted as principal vocalists:—Mrs. Sunderland, Mr. Mann, from Liverpool, and Mr. Lambert, of Windsor; and the able manner in which they rendered the various songs, &c., proved that they could not have been in better hands. The second part consisted principally of secular songs, &c. The performers were ably piloted by Mr. George Hopkinson, who also presided at the pianoforte during the second part; whilst Mr. C. N. Allen occupied the position of leader of the band.

OBITUARY.—We have to announce the death of Mr. James Battye, for many years a teacher of music at Huddersfield. Upon the occasion of the funeral, the members of the Choral Society, of which the deceased was the conductor, and others of his admirers, attended the church, and performed parts of the funeral service, which included several compositions by Mr. Battye. The deceased was highly respected in the town.

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14 & 15	Magnificat and Nunc dimittis	1 6	1 0

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17	Jubilate Deo		
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23	Hallelujah ...		

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